GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
COMMUNICATIONS
LOK SABHA

STARRED QUESTION NO:320
ANSWERED ON:19.03.2001
INTERNET TELEPHONY
GANGASANDRA SIDDAPPA BASAVARAJ;JASWANT SINGH YADAV

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have decided to legalise Internet Telephony;

(b) if so, whether the Department of Telecommunications (DoT) has set up a special group for formulating a strategy to achieve this objective;

(c) if so, whether the Group has submitted its report to the Government;

(d) if so, the details of recommendations made therein; and

(e) if not, the time by which it is likely to submit its report?

Answer

MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN)

(a) to (e): A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT TO BE LAID ON THE TABLE OF LOK SABHA IN RESPECT OF PARTS (a) TO (e) OF LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. 320 FOR 19TH MARCH, 2001 REGARDING INTERNET TELEPHONY.

While at present, in accordance with the New Telecom Policy (NTP-99),Internet Telephony is not permitted, Government is also required under this policy to monitor technological innovations and their impact on national development and review this issue at an appropriate time. Accordingly, Government has constituted an Expert Group to review the matter. The report of the Group is awaited.